

NEWS RELEASE

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Iowa Finance Authority Authorizes the Issuance of \$1.194 billion in Midwestern Disaster Area Bonds for the Iowa Fertilizer Company Project in Wever

New Facility will bring 165 new permanent, full-time jobs to Lee County

DES MOINES – The Iowa Finance Authority Board of Directors today approved the issuance of \$1.194 billion in federal tax-exempt Midwestern Disaster Area Bonds to assist in the financing of the construction of a new fertilizer plant near Wever, Iowa. The financing will use Federal Midwestern Disaster Area Bonds, which are available until January 1, 2013. The Iowa Finance Authority administers the program in Iowa.

“The Iowa Finance Authority is proud to provide this fertilizer plant with the federal resource of Midwestern Disaster Area Bonds to move this project forward,” said Iowa Finance Authority Executive Director Dave Jamison. “This project will not only provide Lee County with 165 permanent full-time jobs, but it’ll provide a tremendous boost to the local economy by providing thousands of additional jobs during the construction period.”

The State of Iowa was allocated \$2.6 billion in bonding authority for Midwestern Disaster Area Bonds in 2008 through the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act. Midwestern Disaster Area Bonds are private activity, federal tax-exempt bonds designed to facilitate economic recovery in the 78 Iowa counties that were declared disaster areas by the President in 2008.

Sixty-eight projects throughout the state have benefited from Midwestern Disaster Area Bonds and the full \$2.6 billion in bonding authority has been allocated. Because Iowa lost so many businesses from the storms, tornados and flooding, most businesses locating, expanding or improving facilities in Iowa may be eligible for the program.

Many businesses that would not otherwise qualify for tax-exempt financing due to the limitations of tax-exempt bonds, qualify for Midwest Disaster Area Bonds. The borrowing business is responsible for repaying the debt. Additional information and the application are available at: www.iowaFinanceAuthority.gov.

Projects financed with the MDA bonds must be located in any one or more of the 78 Iowa counties declared a major disaster area by the President as part of disaster number FEMA 1763-DR declared on May 27, 2008. In Iowa, all counties except Buena Vista, Calhoun, Carroll, Cherokee, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Ida, Jefferson, Lyon, O’Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Sac, Shelby, Sioux, Taylor, Wayne, and Woodbury are included.

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